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# FOREST STEWARDSHIP MANAGEMENT PLAN

Prepared For:  
Claiborne County Schools

Prepared By:  
Tommy Walker

Time Period Covered by This Plan:  
2012 - 2021

Date Plan Prepared:  
2012-02-16

Plan Type:  
Stewardship / Stewardship

This plan was developed in accordance with the rules of the Stewardship program.

**Property Name: Section 23-T12N-R1E**

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## LANDOWNER INFORMATION

Name: Claiborne County Schools  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 337  
City, State, Zip: Port Gibson, MS 39150  
Country: United States of America  
Contact Numbers: Home Number: 601-437-4352  
Office Number:  
Fax Number:  
  
E-mail Address:  
Social Security Number (optional):

## FORESTER INFORMATION

Name: Tommy Walker , Forester II  
Forester Number: 01473  
Street Address: P.O. Box 77  
City, State, Zip: Vicksburg, MS 39181  
Contact Numbers: Office Number: 601-638-1227  
Fax Number:  
  
E-mail Address:

## PROPERTY LOCATION

County: Claiborne    Total Acres: 235    Latitude: -91.12    Longitude: 31.97  
Section: 23    Township: 12N    Range: 1E

## DISCLAIMER

This plan is intended to be flexible. It may be modified to meet changes in economic conditions, management goals, or other circumstances. The figures in this plan are only estimates. They can and will change. Therefore, any plans or budgets that use these figures should be tempered with that thought.

## INTRODUCTION

This Forest Stewardship Management Plan will serve as a guide for accomplishing the goals and objectives for your property. In addition to addressing your specific goals and objectives, this plan includes recommendations for maintaining soil and water quality and protecting your forest from insects, disease, and wildfire. Recommendations are based on observation and assessment of the site.

## OBJECTIVES

### *Timber Production*

The goal is to produce high quality sawtimber. This will be accomplished through reforestation and timber stand improvement practices such as herbicide applications, prescribed burning, thinning at specified intervals, and other silvicultural practices.

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Forestry Best Management Practices will be implemented to prevent erosion and protect water quality.

*Wildlife Management - General*

The goal is to provide a diversity of habitats suitable for a variety of game and non-game wildlife species. Habitat management will focus on developing a variety of food, cover, water, and space. This will be accomplished by establishing and maintaining access roads and firelanes, providing openings within the forest, and the management of trees located within Streamside Management Zones.

## **PROPERTY DESCRIPTION**

*General Property Information*

This section is located less than 1 mile from the Mississippi River in the southwestern part of the county. It is commonly known as the Bayou Pierre section, since the Bayou Pierre forms the southern border of the section. This section contains approximately 235 acres of land. There are 209 acres of forest land. The 26 acres of nonforest land is primarily woods roads and food plots. Approximately 5 acres of the forested acreage is considered inoperable. A private woods road, behind locked gates is the only access road.

The terrain on this section is flat to undulating. This section is part of the Mississippi River Delta. The timber type is Delta Hardwood. It frequently receives backwater flooding from the Mississippi River and Bayou Pierre.

*Water Resources*

Bayou Pierre is the primary water resource for this property. All water resources will be managed in accordance with Mississippi's Best Management Practices.

*Timber Production*

The goal is to maximize the production of high quality timber. This will be accomplished through the application of timely thinning and other silvicultural practices designed to enhance timber quality and growth. Forestry Best Management Practices will be implemented to prevent erosion and protect water quality.

*Threatened and Endangered Species*

No threatened and endangered species were identified during the reconnaissance and evaluation of your property.

*Interaction with Surrounding Property*

Prescribed practices should be carried out in a manner that will minimize adverse impacts on surrounding properties. Consideration should be given to potential air, water, visual, and other impacts. In addition, practices carried out should have positive effects on the surrounding community such as improved wildlife habitat and soil stabilization.

*Soils General*

Soils were evaluated on the property to determine the suitability of the site for the proposed activities. Forest practices were planned so as to minimize erosion or other

adverse effects on the soil. The following soils are identified for this property: Bowdre, Tunica, and Crevasse silty clays are the primary soils on this property located in the Mississippi River Delta. These soils are very productive hardwood sites with site indexes over 90' for Cherrybark Oak. However, due to flooding, Cherrybark Oak is not the best species for this site. The primary tree species for this tract are Willow Oak, Water Oak, Nuttall Oak, Green Ash, Sweet Pecan, Sweetgum, Cottonwood, and Sugarberry. The site index for Willow Oak is 90'.

#### *Archeological and Cultural Resources*

These areas can range from churches, old cemeteries, natural springs, Indian mounds to home sites or other areas of historical significance. No areas of historical significance were found on this tract.

## **GENERAL PROPERTY RECOMMENDATIONS**

### *Forest Protection*

A healthy, vigorously growing stand is the best defense to an attack from a variety of forest insects, plants and pathogens.

#### *Insects and Diseases*

Trees are subject to attack from insects and diseases. Different insects and diseases affect trees according to the age, species, and condition of the trees. Planted stands of pines and pure stands of hardwoods are particularly susceptible to attack. Since there are many different insects and diseases, no attempt will be made here to explain all of them. The property should be inspected at least annually for possible signs of insect and disease activity. Some things to look for are:

- Unseasonable leaf fall
- Discoloration of leaves or needles
- Pitch pockets on pine trees
- Heavy defoliation of hardwood leaves
- Groups of three or more dying trees within a stand

This list does not cover all instances of insect or disease attacks. If anything unusual is noticed, report it to a forester. In most cases, insect and disease problems can be controlled if discovered early.

### *Fire Protection*

Your forest should be protected from wildfire at all times. The best way to protect your investment is by establishing and maintaining firebreaks around the property. Guidelines for establishment and maintenance of firebreaks may be found in Mississippi Forestry Commission publication #107, *Mississippi's Best Management Practices*.

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**Grazing**

Tree seedlings should be protected from grazing until such time as the terminal bud of the sapling is beyond reach of livestock. Domestic livestock should be denied access to all tree planting areas.

**Boundary Lines**

The Mississippi Forestry Commission has been maintaining the property boundaries on this section on a routine basis for many years. The property boundaries will be painted orange on a 4 year rotation, beginning in 2013.

*Water Quality Protection*

The objective of the landowner is to protect, preserve and enhance all water sources on or transecting the property. This can best be achieved by implementation of Best Management Practices in all aspects of the management of the property.

*Aesthetics*

This tract is in a rural part of the county. Therefore, aesthetics should not be a high priority.

*Ecological Restoration*

Ecological restoration is the process of assisting the recovery of an ecosystem that has been degraded, damaged, or destroyed. A reconnaissance of the property has been conducted and no ecological restoration activities are recommended at this time.

*Wildlife Mgt. Target Species*

The objective of this practice is to provide habitat best suited for the featured or target species. Habitat management can focus on providing food, cover, water, and space to facilitate the target species.

*Environmental Education*

Environmental educational goals can be to provide educational opportunities for children and adults through the development of items such as nature trails with tree identification markers, wildlife viewing areas, picnic areas, parking, public restroom facilities. There are no current plans to develop this section for environmental education.

*Wildlife Management General*

The goal is to provide a diversity of habitats suited for a variety of game and non-game wildlife species. Habitat management will focus on providing a variety of food, cover, water, and space. This will be accomplished, in part, by establishing and maintaining access roads and firelanes, providing openings within the forest, and leaving streamside management zones.

This section currently has 30 acres of streamside management zones which provide good travel corridors for wildlife. Also, wildlife is considered when determining the size and placement of regeneration harvests. Timber loading areas often make good areas for wildlife food plots. There are approximately 26 acres of wildlife food plots and roads currently being maintained by the leaseholder for wildlife.

### *Timber Management*

Timber management goals for this property are to manage timber resources in such a manner as to maximize timber production on a sustained yield basis.

### *Recreation*

The primary recreational use of this property is to generate income through a hunting lease.

## **SOIL TYPES**

### *Bowdre*

The Bowdre component makes up 70 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 0 to 2 percent. This component is on alluvial plains. The parent material consists of clayey alluvium over loamy alluvium. Depth to a root restrictive layer is greater than 60 inches. The natural drainage class is somewhat poorly drained. Water movement in the most restrictive layer is moderately low. Available water to a depth of 60 inches is high. Shrink-swell potential is low. This soil is frequently flooded. It is not ponded. A seasonal zone of water saturation is at 21 inches during January, February, March, April. Organic matter content in the surface horizon is about 2 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 5w. This soil meets hydric criteria. The Tunica component makes up 18 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 0 to 2 percent. This component is on alluvial plains. The parent material consists of clayey alluvium over loamy alluvium. Depth to a root restrictive layer is greater than 60 inches. The natural drainage class is poorly drained. Water movement in the most restrictive layer is very low. Available water to a depth of 60 inches is moderate. Shrink-swell potential is moderate. This soil is frequently flooded. It is not ponded. A seasonal zone of water saturation is at 27 inches during January, February, March, April. Organic matter content in the surface horizon is about 2 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 5w. This soil meets hydric criteria.

## **STRATA**

### *Strata 1*

#### Strata Description

Strata 1 is comprised of Stands 1, 3, and 7. It contains a total of 115 acres of Delta hardwood sawtimber. Much of the timber is near maturity. The species composition is good and the volume per acre is good. The terrain is flat to undulating. Stands 3 and 7 are currently being maintained as a SMZ.

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**Strata Recommendations**

The long term goal for this strata is to continue managing Stands 3 and 7 as a SMZ. Stand 1 should be thinned within the next 10 years and should be clearcut within the next 20 years. The clearcut could be artificially or naturally regenerated depending upon the quantity and quality of natural regeneration after the harvest.

**Activity Recommendations**

In 2014, Strata 1, Stand 1 should be thinned. This thinning will primarily be a crown thinning. The trees to remove are as follows: trees of undesirable species, poor quality and unhealthy trees of desirable species, and high risk trees which are competing with better trees.

*Strata 2*

**Strata Description**

Strata 2 is comprised of Stand 8. It contains a total of 94 acres of 12 year old planted and natural hardwood. There are scattered pulpwood size trees which remained after the harvest. The stocking ranges from poor to good. The species composition is good. The total height ranges from 20-25 feet on some of the regeneration to over 50 feet on some of the natural cottonwood and pulpwood. The dbh of the regeneration ranges from 3-5 inches.

**Stand Recommendations**

No timber activities should be needed within this stand for the next 10 years.

**OTHER PLAN ACTIVITIES**

*Boundary Lines*

**Line Description**

This section has 2.2 miles of boundary lines and around 3.5 miles of woods roads to maintain.

**Line Recommendations**

The property boundaries will be painted on a 4 year rotation beginning in 2013. The woods roads will be maintained as firebreaks on an "As Needed" basis.





**STAND MAP - FY2012**  
 Claiborne County Schools  
 Section 23, T12N, R1E, Claiborne County, Ms.  
 235.41 Acres



(11/30/2011)



Prepared by: Tommy Walker




## LEGEND for Section 23, T12N, R1E, Claiborne County, Ms.


### Property

 Property

### Category 1: Stands

 Clear Cut  
 Non-Stocked  
 Reproduction  
 Sub-Merchantable  
 Pulpwood  
 Chip-n-Saw  
 Sawtimber  
 Poles

### Category 3: Non-Forest Stands

 Non-Forest

### Property Roads/Trails

 Drive Ways  
 Access Road  
 Logging Road  
 Skid Trail  
 Farm Road  
 Hiking Trail  
 Horseback Riding Trail

### Hydrology (Lines)

 Mississippi River  
 Major River  
 Primary Stream  
 Intermittent Stream  
 Canal  
 Ditch  
 Earthen Dam  
 Concrete Dam

Stand Activity Summary for  
CLAIBORNE COUNTY SCHOOLS  
23 12N 1E

**Filters Applied:** County: Claiborne  
Client Class: School Trust Land  
District: Capital District  
Client: CLAIBORNE COUNTY S  
STR: 23 12N 1E  
Activity:  
Year: 2012 Through 2021

STR	Strata	Stand	Activity	Acre	Est. Cost	Est. Revenue
2014						
23 12N 1E	1	1	Harvest, Mechanical, Thin, Machine, Misc Hardwood	85	\$2,975.00	\$36,125.00
			Yearly Totals	85	\$2,975.00	\$36,125.00
			Grand Totals	85	\$2,975.00	\$36,125.00